

NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
2150 W. 97th PLACE
CROWN POINT, In. 46307
November 9, 2016

Executive Session: The Board of Managers met in executive session at 5:30 p.m. and discussed items related to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(2)(B),(6) and (9).

1. Mr. Larry R. Biggs called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Mrs. Luanne Jurczak took Roll Call. The following members were recorded as present: Mr. Jonathan Evans, Mrs. Michelle Martin, Mrs. Michelle Dumbsky, Mr. Larry R. Biggs, Mr. Thomas Bainbridge, Mrs. Luanne Jurczak and Ms. Lisa Megquier. There was no representation for Hanover and Hobart.
3. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions on agenda items from the audience. There were none.
4. Mr. Biggs asked for any additions or deletions to the October 12, 2016 minutes. Mr. Bainbridge moved for approval of minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
5. Mrs. Mary Naglich recommended approval of the Monthly Financial Reports dated October 31, 2016 as presented. Mrs. Jurczak moved for Board approval of the financial reports as presented. Motion was seconded by Ms. Martin and passed unanimously.
6. Mrs. Winkoff provided an update on recent meetings with the NISEC Insurance Benefits Committee regarding Medical and Dental Insurance Rates, which will become effective January 2017. Mrs. Winkoff was pleased to share NISEC was able to stay at a 6% increase, which had already been included in the budget. There will be no deductible or co-pay changes. The employee contribution for those on the Family Plan has also been reduced. Mrs. Winkoff asked that the Board approve the insurance rates as presented. Mr. Bainbridge moved for approval of the Medical and Dental Insurance rates as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
7. Mrs. Winkoff presented information from the Department of Education regarding Part B Compliance and Performance Indicators. None of the districts were cited for suspension and expulsion. Griffith was already aware of a disproportionality issue. Mrs. Winkoff felt the report was good overall.
8. There were no Alternative and Residential Contracts for approval at this time.

9. Mrs. Winkoff requested the Board approve a fundraiser for Eagle Park Community School. Mrs. Rosellen Kozel, Teacher in the BLAST Program, has requested a fundraiser making Christmas wreaths and repurposing bottles. The proceeds will be used to take the class on a field trip to the dunes in the Spring of 2017. Mr. Mike Kepchar, Dean of Students, has requested a fundraiser selling “Holiday Wishes and Heavenly Delights”. Brochures have been distributed throughout Eagle Park Community School and the NISEC Office. The proceeds will be used for school activities, field trips and camp day.

10. Director’s Report:

- Mrs. Winkoff shared the Eagle Park Halloween festivities were great fun. There was a parade of students and staff in costumes. The students received toys and treats.
- Mrs. Winkoff invited all to attend the Eagle Park Community School Thanksgiving Celebration which will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2016.
- Mrs. Winkoff noted the lack of substitutes for both Paraprofessionals and Teachers is of grave importance. Mrs. Winkoff and Mrs. Cain met with the representatives from PESG to discuss their inability to improve the fill rate for subs. Mrs. Winkoff said this issue was discussed at length at the Superintendents Advisory Council meeting and she will be compiling detailed information to present to the Superintendents at the December meeting. Mrs. Winkoff asked for patience as NISEC works to provide a better solution to this matter.

11: Personnel:

Mrs. Winkoff will recommend the following personnel actions:

a. Resignations:

Certified

Rachel Hartman, Teacher of Students with Emotional Disabilities, effective November 4, 2016

Martha “Marcy” Kovar, Teacher for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, effective December 2, 2016

Classified

Talashia Smith, Paraprofessional with Wood Elementary, effective November 15, 2016

Andrea White, Paraprofessional with Wadsworth Elementary, effective November 16, 2016

Brittney White, Paraprofessional with Salk Elementary, effective November 11, 2016

b. Appointments:

Certified

Christy Aceves, Intense Intervention Teacher at Evans Elementary, effective November 14, 2016

Katherine Hannigan, Teacher of Students with Emotional Disabilities at Eagle Park Community School, effective November 21, 2016

Kyla Jagiela, Teacher of Students with Emotional Disabilities at Wood Elementary, effective November 7, 2016

Katherine Lomberger, School Psychologist for Longfellow Elementary (Office), effective November 7, 2016

Registered

Sheila Parker, Behavioral Consultant for Eagle Park Community School, effective November 14, 2016

Classified

Brianna Davy, Paraprofessional for Hanover Central Middle School and Lincoln Elementary School, effective November 14, 2016

Rebecca DeVries, Paraprofessional with Wood Elementary, effective October 24, 2016

Pearl Heffner, Paraprofessional with Merrillville High School, effective November 7, 2016

Lois Jones, Paraprofessional with Eagle Park Community School, effective November 7, 2016

Angela Miller, Paraprofessional with Salk Elementary School, effective November 14, 2016

Waunetta Person, Paraprofessional with Merrillville High School, effective November 7, 2016

Rebecca Rivera, Paraprofessional with Edison Jr/Sr High School, effective November 7, 2016

c. Leave of Absence:

Kimberly Dobe on medical leave pursuant to the memo from Mrs. Kathy Cain, dated October 26, 2016

d. Conference Leaves

Kari Anderson, Self-Regulation in Children, South Bend, Indiana, December 7, 2016

Kristine Besch, Resolving Conflicts in a Diverse Classroom, Valparaiso University, December 7, 2016

Lori Brown-Runyon, Cadre of Transition Leaders, Michigan City, Indiana, October 21, 2016

Candi Dines-Cress, Resolving Conflicts in a Diverse Classroom, Valparaiso University, December 7, 2016

Donovan Estridge, Resolving Conflicts in a Diverse Classroom, Valparaiso University, December 7, 2016

Kirsten Fulton, Intermediate Microsoft Excel Class, November 8, 2016 and November 29, 2016

Jeanine Gonzalez, Ross Green Workshop, Westfield, Indiana, November 18, 2016

Michael Kepchar, Resolving Conflicts in a Diverse Classroom, Valparaiso University, December 7, 2016

Janet Miller, Differentiating Sensory from Behavior Day, Crown Point, Indiana, November 16, 2016

Jennifer Nicksich, Self-Regulation in Children with Autism, South Bend, Indiana, December 7, 2016

Margaret Pachowicz, Differentiating Sensory from Behavior, Crown Point, Indiana, November 16, 2016

Evelyn Sebastian, Differentiating Sensory from Behavior, Crown Point, Indiana, November 16, 2016

Jane Winkoff, Resolving Conflicts in a Diverse Classroom, Valparaiso University, December 7, 2016

e. Retirement

Ellen Wright, Teacher of Students with Emotional Disabilities, retiring with 24 years of service with NISEC, effective November 4, 2016

f. Independent Contracts

Yolanda Coriano Muniz, Behavioral Consultant, effective October 18, 2016

Mr. Evans moved for approval of the Personnel Report as presented. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Dumbsky and passed unanimously.

12. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions from the Board.
Mrs. Dumbsky commended the NISEC Insurance Committee for a job well done. All of the NISEC Board Members who were running for re-election won their races. Congratulations to all!
13. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions from the Audience.
Mrs. Lisa Guernsey, NISEC Teacher and Union Representative, commended Mrs. Winkoff for implementing the IEP Facilitators. Mrs. Guernsey, Ms. Foley and Mr. John Mackowicz (a NISEC Teacher), all felt the teachers were benefitting from this change. Ms. Foley also thanked the NISEC Board for their service to the NISEC and their respective communities. Ms. Foley wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
14. Mr. Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Megquier and passed unanimously.